

Shelley Simcox

Prohibit wood-stove burning especially in neighborhoods regardless of apparent rural (or quasi-rural/suburban) status. We have put up with unhealthy air from wildfire smoke in our area for weeks, the worst ever. Now we get to look forward to experiencing a fall/winter (and maybe even spring) of smoky, polluted, unhealthy air from neighbors burning wood all or most of the time in their home wood stoves, often from having basically chopped down most of the trees in their yards. We have put up with this for years in the Lake Symington neighborhood of Kitsap County near Bremerton, WA. This year it promises to be worse as people have chopped down still more trees and have stacked the wood/logs in their yards, and will probably be trying to save money by burning wood for heat even more than ever. No one should be allowed anymore to have this as the only source of heat in their home. Tax credits could be allowed to help with ending woodstove burning and replacing heating systems. The smoke and pollution we have experienced makes us feel unhealthy with stuffed noses/sinuses, coughs, headaches, sometimes even sore throats and nausea. It could be doing long term damage to our health as bad as wildlife smoke and cigarette smoke (we do NOT smoke or use a wood stove). It is also unpleasant and makes it smelly and unhealthy to walk outside. It makes no sense and is unhealthy and short-sighted and uncaring to continue to allow the smoke. Health should trump money.